

Approved For Release 2009/09/21 : CIA-RDP87M00539R002403970005-9

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Approved For Release 2009/09/21 : CIA-RDP87M00539R002403970005-9

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

OLL 85-0467/1

28 FEB 1985

9861 024 0

The Honorable Eldon Rudd  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Rudd:

Thank you for your letter of 5 February expressing your concerns that agencies of the Federal Government should neither advocate nor impose the exclusive use of the metric system.

The Central Intelligence Agency does have a representative on the Interagency Committee on Metric Policy to study the implementation of the metric system, and to assure that there are no unintended barriers or unnecessary restrictions on the voluntary use of the metric system.

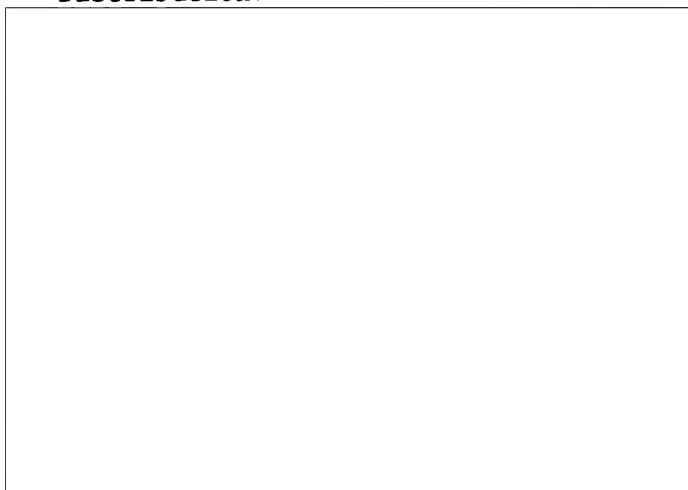
I appreciate your apprising me of your concerns and be assured they will be passed to the appropriate officials within the Agency.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence

Distribution:



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L 309

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

15 February 1985

The Honorable Malcolm Baldrige  
The Secretary of Commerce  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mac,

In response to your letter of January 29, 1985, I can assure you of this Agency's full support in fostering the voluntary use of the metric system within the Federal Government.

Accordingly, I am referring the procedures recommended by the Interagency Committee on Metric Policy to all major components of CIA and to our regulatory, contractual, and logistical elements in particular. Our goal will be to reassure ourselves that no unnecessary restrictions to the voluntary use of the metric system exist within our own Agency regulations or practices.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "WJ Casey", written over the typed name.

William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence



2309

Subject: Letter to Malcolm Baldrige  
Re Agency's Voluntary Use of the Metric System

Distribution:

O - Addressee

1 - ER

1 - Executive Director

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1 - [redacted] (IMSS/OL)

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DI/MPS [redacted] (5 Feb 85)

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DDI #00683-85  
8 February 1985

NOTE TO: Director of Central Intelligence  
FROM : Deputy Director for Intelligence

1. This letter from Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige is being sent to all federal department/agency heads. You are being asked to ensure that Agency regulations and reporting requirements contain no unintended barriers to voluntary use of the metric system. Recommended procedures developed by the Interagency Committee on Metric Policy (ICMP), which are intended to assist in this regard, are attached.

2. These procedures were received in draft in September 1984 and were circulated to all four directorates, OGC, and the Comptroller for review and comment. No problems or concerns were raised at that time, and, from our viewpoint, no significant changes have been made in the final version.

3. A response has been prepared for your signature, along with copies of the recommended procedures to be sent to each Directorate and to OGC.

  
Robert M. Gates

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Attachments:  
As Stated



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**Page Denied**

**RECOMMENDED FEDERAL AGENCY PROCEDURES FOR  
IMPLEMENTING METRIC POLICY**

The Interagency Committee on Metric Policy (ICMP) has approved these procedures and recommendations which affect proposed regulations, reporting or recordkeeping requirements or data requests which are measurement sensitive. This committee, composed of senior representatives of the 38 member Federal agencies, assists in formulating metric policy in consultation with the private sector.

The recommendations are in accord with the Metric Conversion Act of 1975 and established Federal Government metric policies including the "Metric Conversion Policy for Federal Agencies" and the "Federal Agency Guidelines for Implementation of the Metric Conversion Policy" published on April 30, 1981 (46 FR 24455-56).

**Office of Metric Programs  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
Washington, D.C. 20230  
Tel. (202) 377-0944**

**January 2, 1985**

**Interagency Committee on Metric Policy**  
**RECOMMENDED FEDERAL AGENCY PROCEDURES FOR**  
**IMPLEMENTING METRIC POLICY**

It is the policy of the United States, as stated by Congress in the Metric Conversion Act, to coordinate and plan the increasing use of the metric system in the United States. (P.L. 94-168, 89 Stat. 1007; 15 U.S.C. 205b). The Interagency Committee on Metric Policy has recommended the following procedures to ensure that Federal agency programs support an environment that can accommodate the transition to use of the metric system on a voluntary basis by the Federal Government, state and local governments, and the private sector.

The Interagency Committee on Metric Policy believes that Federal agencies can best support the goals of the national metric policy by ensuring:

-- that agency regulations do not impede the voluntary transition to the use of the metric system by the Federal Government, state and local governments, or the private sector; and

-- that agencies provide for the reporting by Government or the private sector of information and data in a practical and meaningful form of either inch-pound or metric units.

**Implementing Procedures**

(a) Agencies should adopt procedures to identify proposed regulations, reporting or record-keeping requirements, or data requests that are "measurement-sensitive." A "measurement-sensitive" regulation, reporting or record-keeping requirement is one whose application or meaning depends substantially on some measured quantity. For example, measurement-sensitive items include product or performance criteria or standards binding on companies or others, such as emissions levels, size and weight limitations on items in commerce. Measurement-sensitive items also include reporting requirements whose application depends on numerical considerations. The mere presence of dimensions or measurement terms, however, does not necessarily make an item "measurement-sensitive."



-2-

(b) When such items are identified, agencies should determine whether units used in specifying them can be either metric (SI) or inch-pound. When respondents have the alternative to use either metric or inch-pound units, space and reasonable format for each should be provided in reporting forms. In determining whether to provide for alternative reporting, agencies should consider the degree to which the particular class of respondents has evolved toward use of the metric system.

(c) If it is determined that measurement-sensitive items or data should be stated, maintained or reported using a single measurement system, effort should be made to ensure that the system chosen is the one expected to be in general use by the affected industry or group for the duration of the proposed rule, reporting or record-keeping function.

(d) Agencies should exercise care in selecting values, in any measurement system, that are practical and meaningful for the intended purpose. More detailed guidance on selection of metric units will be provided through the Interagency Committee on Metric Policy. In brief, this selection involves:

(i) Avoidance of values expressed in numbers that are inappropriately precise considering the tolerances involved in the subject matter. For example, 102 inches is the statutory width limitation for trucks using the national highway network. An equivalent of 2.5909 meters would not be practical. A limitation of 2.6 meters (even though very slightly more than 102 inches) would be more appropriate.

(ii) Recognition of certain problems inherent in setting limiting values during a period of transition from common use of one system of measurement to another. This includes the fact that in enforcing any standard expressed in alternative numerical terms differing even slightly in real magnitude, there can be only one operative absolute limitation. For example, if 2.6 meters in the above example were selected as the equivalent for 102 inches, the actual operative limit of maximum width would be the "wider" 2.6 meters. In fact, this decision is embodied in current Federal regulation, which states: "No State shall impose a width limitation of more or less than 102 inches, or its approximate metric equivalent, 2.6 meters, (102.36 inches) on a vehicle ...." (23 CFR Part 658.15(a)) As an additional result of this accommodation, trucks built to a 2.6 meter international standard may be used on U.S. highways.

-3-

Assistance in interpreting or implementing these procedures, or in determining practical and meaningful metric values, is available from the Office of Metric Programs of the Department of Commerce. One source of assistance regarding the status of metric conversion in an industry sector is the relevant Sector Committee of the American National Metric Council (ANMC), an organization involved in private sector planning for metric transition.

4TH DISTRICT, ARIZONA

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2244 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-3361DISTRICT OFFICE:  
6900 E. CAMELBACK ROAD  
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85251  
(602) 241-2801**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**Washington, D.C. 20515  
February 5, 1985

Executive Registry

85- 292/1

Honorable William J. Casey  
Director of Central  
Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20506

Dear Bill,

The Secretary of Commerce recently advised me that he has been in touch with you and other key Administration officials to provide the "Recommended Federal Agency Procedures for Implementing Metric Policy" of the Office of Metric Programs.

These guidelines are intended to help make sure the Federal Government does not restrict the voluntary use of the metric system. However, at the same time--and at the assurance of Secretary Baldrige--they should in no way suggest that the Commerce Department or any other Federal agency should advocate exclusive use of a particular measurement system.

It is not permissible under the law, nor is it the will of Congress, to force the use of metric units on anyone. Such a policy would be unacceptable to the American people who have indicated in poll after poll, in numbers of 75% or better, that they oppose conversion to metric.

Let me make it clear that I do not oppose the voluntary use of the metric system by individuals or businesses in this Country. Indeed, it has been the policy of the United States since 1866 to allow the use of either metric or our customary American system of weights and measures. What I strongly oppose is government's unwarranted promotion and costly imposition of metric on the American people who do not want to convert and stand little or no benefit as a result of conversion.

I would appreciate your apprising me whether and how the Central Intelligence Agency intends to comply with the Commerce Department's above-mentioned recommended procedures.

Thank you, in advance, for your attention to this request.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,



Eldon Rudd  
Member of Congress

ER/tq



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**THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE**

Washington, D.C. 20230

JAN 29 1985

292

Honorable William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Bill,

In carrying out my responsibilities under the Metric Conversion Act of 1975, I ask your help to make sure the Federal Government does not restrict the voluntary use of the metric system. Use of this standard system improves our international communications and helps U.S. firms to be more competitive in world markets.

Steps can be taken now to ensure that your regulations and reporting requirements do not contain unintentional barriers to use of the metric system. The Interagency Committee on Metric Policy recommends the enclosed procedures to assist in this effort. Questions should go to our Office of Metric Programs.

We would appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature, likely "Mac", is written above the typed name of the Secretary of Commerce.

Secretary of Commerce

Enclosure

DCI  
EXEC  
REG

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

DDI-3285-831

17 MAY 1983

STAT

The Honorable Malcolm Baldrige  
The Secretary of Commerce  
Washington, D. C. 20230

Dear Mac,

Thank you for your letter of May 3, 1983 announcing the establishment of an Interagency Committee on Metric Policy. I believe it would be useful and appropriate for this Agency to join with other Federal Departments and Agencies in implementing the Federal metric program.

I have designated [ ] to be the CIA representative on metric matters and to participate in the efforts of this Interagency Committee. [ ] is a senior intelligence officer, who has held responsible positions in various sectors of this Agency, including recent assignments with the Comptroller and the Inspector General. [ ] is currently a member of the Planning and Management Staff in the Office of the Deputy Director for Intelligence (DDI/PMS). He can be reached on [ ]

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Sincerely,

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/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey

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Distribution:

[Redacted Distribution List]

ER 83-2373



Central Intelligence Agency  
Office of the Deputy Director for Intelligence

13 MAY 1983

NOTE FOR: Director

FROM : Bob Gates  
Deputy Director  
for Intelligence

Bill,

This letter from Malcolm Baldrige requests that you appoint a CIA representative to his newly established Interagency Committee on Metric Policy. The DDCI believes it would be worthwhile for us to participate so as to look out for any possible intelligence equities. Accordingly, I have prepared the attached response for your signature, naming [redacted] to serve on this Committee. [redacted] is an overt SIS-2 career DDI staff officer.

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[redacted]  
Bob Gates

Attachment:  
As Stated

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EXEC

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THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Executive Registry

83-2373

MAY 3 1983

Honorable William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Bill,

The President has assigned to me the responsibility for implementing the Federal metric program. On March 28, 1983, I established the Interagency Committee on Metric Policy to coordinate the Federal Government's metric responsibilities. I have designated Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Productivity, Technology and Innovation Dr. D. Bruce Merrifield to serve as Chairman.

The enclosed charter of this Committee states that the representatives of the Committee be at the Assistant Secretary level or an equivalent position within a Federal agency. I ask that you appoint a representative from your Agency to serve on the Committee.

The name and telephone number of your appointee should be forwarded to Dr. David T. Goldman, Acting Director of the Office of Metric Programs, Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C. 20230. Dr. Goldman can be reached at 377-0944.

Sincerely,

Secretary of Commerce

Enclosure

L 309

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Charter of  
The Interagency Committee on Metric Policy

Establishment

1. The Interagency Committee on Metric Policy (hereinafter referred to as Committee) is hereby established by the Secretary of Commerce to advise him and other heads of Federal Departments and Agencies concerning metrication policy of the Federal Government.
2. The establishment of this Committee is undertaken by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to existing statutory authorities. (See e.g., 15 USC 272 and 1512).

Purpose

The Committee has the purpose to coordinate and provide policy guidance regarding the U.S. Government's efforts of voluntary metric conversion both in the public and private sectors. The Committee shall recommend effective and consistent policies applicable to both sectors. Unless otherwise provided by law, the Committee's activities shall include: standards, education and public information, weights and measures, consumer affairs, data collection,

domestic and international business matters and Federal administrative procedures as they relate to the Federal Government's voluntary metric conversion activities.

### Functions

To achieve the above cited purpose, the Committee shall

- (1) collect and analyze appropriate data
- (2) coordinate Executive and appropriate Legislative Departments and agencies in their metrication activities
- (3) recommend metric plans and policies for the Federal Government where more than one Federal Department or Agency has a primary interest such as transportation, weights and measures, consumer affairs, and international trade
- (4) prepare recommendations concerning the development of Federal metrication policies and actions as related to both the public and private sectors including

local and state governments  
engaged in metric activities

- (5) study, identify and report  
barriers to metrication in the  
Federal sector and domestic and  
international commerce
- (6) prepare recommendations for  
providing improved procedures to  
educate both Federal and private  
sectors in the field of metrication
- (7) evaluate the role of the use of the  
metric system toward increasing  
exports of United States commodities  
to nations overseas
- (8) provide mediation of differences  
between Federal Agencies as they  
relate to the use of the metric  
system
- (9) take steps to eliminate unnecessary  
duplication of Federal metric

activities with those which may  
be performed in the private sector

- (10) provide all recommendations by  
written reports to the Secretary.

### Membership

1. The voting members of the Committee shall be:

(A) Federal Departments

Department of Agriculture  
Department of Commerce  
Department of Defense  
Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Department of the Interior  
Department of Transportation  
Department of the Treasury

(B) Federal Agencies

General Services Administration  
Government Printing Office  
Interstate Commerce Commission  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
U.S. Postal Service  
Veterans Administration

Additional Departments and Agencies will be added as they  
seek membership.

2. Other Federal Departments or Agencies may become voting  
members or non-voting observer members of the Committee upon

application to or by invitation from the Secretary of Commerce.

3. For maximum effectiveness of the Committee, voting representatives should be responsible policy-making individuals at a relatively senior level. At the invitation of the Secretary, the Head of each Federal Department serving on the Committee shall appoint a responsible official whose rank shall not be less than a "Level IV" of the Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. 5312-15, 5317) to serve as the Federal Department's metric policy official and representative on the Committee. The Chair may approve a member chosen at a level other than that specified provided that the level is consistent with the overall intent of the Charter that each member be at the policy-making level. The Head of a Federal Agency (i.e., ... not a Cabinet Department) serving on the Committee shall appoint a representative whose rank shall be the equivalent of a Level IV rank in policy-making authority. The Head of each Federal Department and Agency serving on the Committee shall inform the Chairman of his or her appointed voting representative. Appointments to the Committee shall be for an indefinite term.

A Federal Department or Agency not wishing to participate as a voting member of the Committee may participate as a "non-voting observer." The Head of such Department or Agency

shall inform the Chairman of his or her appointed observer-representative. Observer appointments shall be for an indefinite term. There are no minimum grade level requirements for observers.

#### Administrative Provisions

1. The Secretary of Commerce shall designate a Level IV or above as the Chairman of the Committee. Additionally the Secretary will appoint Department of Commerce representative(s) to the Committee.
2. The Committee shall determine such internal operating procedures as it deems necessary to carry out its function.

#### Executive Committees and Subcommittees

1. A Metrication Operating Committee (MOC) may be established as a working subcommittee to the Committee. The Chairman of the MOC shall be chosen by the Chairman of the Committee. The MOC shall have the purpose to perform the duties as the Committee and/or the Chairman directs and make appropriate recommendations to the Committee. The MOC membership who are chosen by the Committee and MOC Chairman shall consist of senior mid-level officials of the Departments and Agencies composing the Committee or other

Federal Departments and Agencies which indicates an interest in metrication. Both in the Committee and MOC meetings, experts from individual Departments and Agencies may attend and participate in discussions as to subject matter on the agenda. Non-Government individuals may also attend any meetings and participate at the invitation of the Chairmen. Subcommittees of the MOC are permissible.

2. The Committee, at its discretion, may establish other working Executive Committees for any purpose the Committee deems appropriate, and operate in accord with the Committee's and Chairman's direction.

3. The Committee and the MOC may draft other administrative or operating procedures as necessary which are consistent with their objectives cited above.

4. As may be necessary, member Departments and Agencies shall cooperate fully to furnish appropriate assistance to the Committee or its subcommittees.

#### Annual Report

The Committee shall submit a progress report to the Secretary of Commerce and other heads of Departments and Agencies as directed by the Secretary at 12-month intervals. The report



should state a summarization of Committee activities during the previous 12-month period and include Committee recommendations.

Approved:

*Walter Balducci*  
Secretary of Commerce

MAR 28 1983

Date

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**  
ROUTING SLIP

ER

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI				
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR		X		
4	D/ICS		X		
5	DDI	X			
6	DDA				
7	DDO		X		
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC		X		
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers				
14	D/OLL		X	2/12/85	
15	D/PAO				
16	SA/IA				
17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPD/OIS				
19	NIO				
20					
21					
22					

SUSPENSE      COB 13 Feb 1985 *P*  
Date

Remarks  
TO DDI #5: Please prepare response for  
DCI signature. (FYI DCI Letter of  
17 May 1983, designated [redacted]  
as CIA rep for metric matters-  
copy attached)

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Executive Secretary

31 Jan 85

Date

3637 (10-81)



**THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE**

Washington, D.C. 20230

JAN 29 1985

Executive Registry

65- 292

Honorable William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20506

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We would appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

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Secretary of Commerce

Enclosure

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**RECOMMENDED FEDERAL AGENCY PROCEDURES FOR  
IMPLEMENTING METRIC POLICY**

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Office of Metric Programs  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
Washington, D.C. 20230  
Tel. (202) 377-0944

January 2, 1985

**Interagency Committee on Metric Policy**  
**RECOMMENDED FEDERAL AGENCY PROCEDURES FOR**  
**IMPLEMENTING METRIC POLICY**

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**Implementing Procedures**

(a) Agencies should adopt procedures to identify proposed regulations, reporting or record-keeping requirements, or data requests that are "measurement-sensitive." A "measurement-sensitive" regulation, reporting or record-keeping requirement is one whose application or meaning depends substantially on some measured quantity. For example, measurement-sensitive items include product or performance criteria or standards binding on companies or others, such as emissions levels, size and weight limitations on items in commerce. Measurement-sensitive items also include reporting requirements whose application depends on numerical considerations. The mere presence of dimensions or measurement terms, however, does not necessarily make an item "measurement-sensitive."

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(b) When such items are identified, agencies should determine whether units used in specifying them can be either metric (SI) or inch-pound. When respondents have the alternative to use either metric or inch-pound units, space and reasonable format for each should be provided in reporting forms. In determining whether to provide for alternative reporting, agencies should consider the degree to which the particular class of respondents has evolved toward use of the metric system.

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(ii) Recognition of certain problems inherent in setting limiting values during a period of transition from common use of one system of measurement to another. This includes the fact that in enforcing any standard expressed in alternative numerical terms differing even slightly in real magnitude, there can be only one operative absolute limitation. For example, if 2.6 meters in the above example were selected as the equivalent for 102 inches, the actual operative limit of maximum width would be the "wider" 2.6 meters. In fact, this decision is embodied in current Federal regulation, which states: "No State shall impose a width limitation of more or less than 102 inches, or its approximate metric equivalent, 2.6 meters, (102.36 inches) on a vehicle ...." (23 CFR Part 658.15(a)) As an additional result of this accommodation, trucks built to a 2.6 meter international standard may be used on U.S. highways.

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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

DDI-3285-831

17 MAY 1983

STAT

The Honorable Malcolm Baldrige  
The Secretary of Commerce  
Washington, D. C. 20230

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I have designated [ ] to be the CIA representative on metric matters and to participate in the efforts of this Interagency Committee. [ ] is a senior intelligence officer, who has held responsible positions in various sectors of this Agency, including recent assignments with the Comptroller and the Inspector General. [ ] is currently a member of the Planning and Management Staff in the Office of the Deputy Director for Intelligence (DDI/PMS). He can be reached on [ ]

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Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey

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Distribution: